AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A method for maintaining a dynamic reference repository for an enterprise~~comprising a database for storing collective knowledge~~, comprising the steps of:

performing by a processing module, an automated identification of enterprise information requirements and enterprise technology requirements based on a desired enterprise capability to thereby identify and populate the dynamic reference repository with pertinent inputs required to support the desired enterprise capability;

discovering the pertinent inputs to the dynamic reference repository, the pertinent inputs comprising data from a plurality of information resources containing knowledge accessible to update or add to the collective knowledge stored within the dynamic reference repository;

retrieving the pertinent inputs to the dynamic reference repository to update or add to the collective knowledge stored in the dynamic reference repository;

contextually mapping the pertinent inputs required to support the desired enterprise capability, from the plurality of information resources to the dynamic reference repository ~~to a specified capability~~;

at least the discovering, retrieving, and mapping performed ~~by~~ with an automated software agent configured to communicate with the plurality of information resources and ~~the~~ a dynamic reference repository database for storing collective knowledge, the automated software agent stored in a memory device accessible to the processing module; and

distributing the pertinent inputs to update the dynamic reference repository.

2. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1,

wherein the step of discovering pertinent inputs includes determining the pertinent inputs in a context of the ~~specified~~ desired capability;

wherein the automated software agent is customizable by a user to define a customizable software agent; and

wherein the method further comprises the customizable ~~automated~~ software agent:

mapping an enterprise requirement received from a procuring entity and a plurality of pertinent technologies to the desired capability to allow users to evaluate a plurality of technical solutions to the enterprise requirement;

searching a plurality of information resources to thereby discover the pertinent inputs to the dynamic reference repository,

cataloging the pertinent inputs to the dynamic reference repository, and

maintaining the pertinent inputs to the dynamic reference repository.

3. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the pertinent inputs to the dynamic reference repository ~~can~~ include updates made to one or more of the plurality of information resources utilized as a prior existing source of information for the dynamic reference repository, the method further comprising the steps of:

dynamically updating identified enterprise requirements responsive to receiving updates to source domain information, operational requirements, system requirements, technical requirements, and standards requirements;

dynamically updating identified enterprise technologies responsive to receiving updates to basic science, technological theory, technological solutions, and technological sources; and

dynamically updating identified enterprise subject matter expertise responsive to receiving updates to expert operational experience, systems experience, and technical experience.

4. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1,

wherein the step of discovering pertinent inputs to the dynamic reference repository includes identifying updates made to one or more of the plurality of information resources utilized as a prior existing source of information for the dynamic reference repository;

wherein the step of distributing the pertinent inputs includes updating the database within the dynamic reference repository; and

wherein the method further comprises; providing notice of the identified updates made to the existing sources of information, to users of the dynamic reference repository, and analyzing

and drawing logical linkages between repository documents, technology and capability assessments, and subject matter expert inputs.

5. (Currently amended) The method of claim 2,

wherein the customizable agent searches, discovers, and retrieves the pertinent inputs from Internet or intranet resources;

wherein the customizable agent searches, discovers, and retrieves the pertinent inputs from subject matter experts (SMEs); and

wherein the customizable agent further comprises ~~utilities~~ at least one utility configured to initiate contact with a SME with an online communication and to conduct a SME review or ~~reviews, assessments or interviews~~ assessment of a technology or capability, the online communication including a link to an interactive enterprise website associated with the dynamic reference repository to conduct the SME reviews or assessment.

6. (Canceled).

7. (Canceled).

8. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1,

wherein pertinent inputs are contained in, and retrieved by the automated software agent from communications addressed to the dynamic reference repository for storage within the dynamic reference repository; ~~and~~

wherein the communications addressed to the dynamic reference repository ~~are~~ include e-mails containing subject matter expert assessments addressed to the dynamic reference repository; and.

wherein the automated software agent includes a utility to perform the step of generating a subject matter expert request for information required to produce the determined pertinent inputs to thereby obtain the required pertinent inputs required to satisfy the desired capability.

9. (Canceled).

10. (Currently amended) The method of claim 2,

wherein the customizable agent searches are developed using a graphical user interface (GUI) that interfaces with the dynamic reference repository; ~~and~~

wherein the GUI allows a user to develop, customize, and manage the customizable agent searches;~~,~~ and

wherein the method further comprises automated updating of a next customizable agent search dynamically for a user responsive to a user refusing undesired information returned during a current customizable agent search.

11. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

the automated software agent recognizing a global replacement of a name of a data item in one of the plurality of information resources; and

redefining the name of the data item responsive to the global replacement of the name of the data item in the respective information resource, to retrieve pertinent articles, knowledge, or pieces of information containing the data item previously referred to by a different name in the respective information resource.~~wherein the step of discovering pertinent inputs includes identifying the pertinent inputs from within the plurality of information resources to thereby populate and update the database within the dynamic reference repository; and~~

~~wherein the step of retrieving pertinent inputs includes culling a set of knowledge resources and producing refined and contextual results to populate the database within the dynamic reference repository, to thereby facilitate shared knowledge.~~

12. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1,

wherein the step of discovering the pertinent inputs further comprises ~~one or more of the following: —~~running periodic prioritized customizable agent searches of reference materials~~materials(s);~~ and

wherein the step of discovering the pertinent inputs further comprises automated time stamping of the discovered pertinent inputs with current time prior to dissemination of notice thereof to users of the database.

13. (Currently amended) The method of claim 12,

wherein the customizable agent searches are neutral to document format;

wherein the pertinent inputs further comprise documents required to satisfy the desired capability from plurality of sources and in a plurality of document formats;

wherein the customizable agent identifies the documents required to satisfy the desired capability;

wherein the plurality of document formats comprise electronic forms that further comprise MS Office, web document, and e-mail document compatible forms; and

wherein the customizable agent integrates the documents having a plurality of document formats into a common standard format used within an enterprise architecture system.

14. (Canceled).

15. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

~~tagging a term and~~ contextually relating ~~the~~ a term separately with ~~its~~ each associated different information source to allow the term to be differentiated and properly used to thereby maintain integrity of ~~an~~ each assigned meaning of the term; and

interpreting the meaning of the term differently for at least two different information sources to differentiate each meaning of the term relative to the respective information source to thereby prevent returning non-pertinent inputs to a search query including the term.

~~redefining contextually one or more terms and definitions underlying the database responsive to at least one of the discovered pertinent inputs.~~

16. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of: ~~wherein discovering the pertinent inputs further comprises automated time stamping of the discovered pertinent inputs with current time prior to dissemination of notice thereof to users of the database.~~

the automated software agent recognizing a global replacement of a name of a data item in one of the plurality of information resources from a first name during an earlier first time period to a second name during a later second time period; and

retrieving a set of same articles, knowledge, or pieces of information responsive to a plurality of searches by the automated software agent, each based on a separate one of a corresponding plurality of different keyword names referring to a same data item, the data item being referred to by the first name identifying the data item during the earlier first time period and a second name identifying the data item during the later second time period.

17. (Currently amended) A dynamic reference repository system for maintaining a dynamic reference repository for an enterprise, the system comprising:

at least one database;

at least one information resource operably coupled to the dynamic reference repository; and

a processing module operably coupled to the at least one database and operable to execute a set of instructions to:

identify enterprise information requirements and enterprise technology requirements based on a desired enterprise capability to thereby identify and populate the dynamic reference repository with pertinent inputs required to support the desired enterprise capability,

identify the pertinent inputs to the dynamic reference repository within the at least one information resource, the pertinent inputs comprising data from at least one information resource containing knowledge accessible to update or add to collective knowledge stored within the dynamic reference repository,

retrieve the pertinent inputs to the dynamic reference repository from the at least one information resource to update or add to the collective knowledge stored in the dynamic reference repository,

contextually map the pertinent inputs required to support the desired enterprise capability, from the plurality of information resources to the dynamic reference repository,

manage the pertinent inputs to the dynamic reference repository, and

distribute the pertinent inputs to update the dynamic reference repository.

18. (Currently amended) The dynamic reference repository system of claim 17,

wherein the instructions to identify pertinent inputs to the dynamic reference repository includes those to determine the pertinent inputs in a context of a specified capability;

wherein the processing module is further operable to:

catalog the pertinent inputs to the dynamic reference repository,

~~contextually map the pertinent inputs to the dynamic reference repository to the specified capability, and~~

map an enterprise requirement received from a procuring entity and a plurality of pertinent technologies to the desired capability to allow users to evaluate a plurality of technical solutions to the enterprise requirement, and

maintain the pertinent inputs to the dynamic reference repository; and

wherein the system further comprises at least one customizable agent configured to search and retrieve the pertinent inputs to the dynamic reference repository from the at least one information resource and to contextually map the pertinent inputs to the dynamic reference repository to the specified capability.

19. (Currently amended) The dynamic reference repository of claim 17, wherein the pertinent inputs to the dynamic reference repository ~~can~~ include updates made to the at least one information resource utilized by the processing module as a prior existing source of information for the dynamic reference repository, and wherein the processing module is further operable to:

dynamically update identified enterprise requirements responsive to receiving updates to source domain information, operational requirements, system requirements, technical requirements, and standards requirements;

dynamically update identified enterprise technologies responsive to receiving updates to basic science, technological theory, technological solutions, and technological sources; and

dynamically updating identified enterprise subject matter expertise responsive to receiving updates to expert operational experience, systems experience, and technical experience.

20. (Currently amended) The dynamic reference repository of claim 17,

wherein the instructions to identify pertinent inputs to the dynamic reference repository include those to identify updates made to the at least one information resource utilized by the processing module as a prior existing source of information for the dynamic reference repository;

wherein the instructions to identify pertinent inputs to the dynamic reference repository include those to update the database within the dynamic reference repository; and

wherein the processing module is further operable to provide notice of the identified updates made to the existing sources of information, to users of the dynamic reference repository, and analyze and draw logical linkages between repository documents, technology and capability assessments, and subject matter expert inputs.

21. (Currently amended) The dynamic reference repository system of claim 18, wherein the at least one information resource comprises at least one of the following: Internet, intranet, or subject matter experts (SMEs) resources, wherein the processing module is further operable to discover the pertinent inputs by executing a periodic prioritized search of reference materials within the at least one information resource, and wherein the processing module is further

operable to time stamp the pertinent inputs with current time prior to dissemination of notice to users of the at least one database.

22. (Currently amended) The dynamic reference repository system of claim 17, further comprising:

at least one customizable agent configured to search and retrieve the pertinent inputs to the dynamic reference repository from the at least one information resource, and comprising at least one utility configured to initiate contact with a subject matter expert (SME) with an online communication and to conduct a SME review or assessment of a technology or capability, the online communication including a link to an interactive enterprise website associated with the dynamic reference repository to conduct the SME review or assessment; and

an interface configured to provide a single common user entry point into the at least one database for a plurality of physically spaced apart users connected through a corresponding plurality of different networks, and configured to allow each of the plurality of users to create, edit, and manage the at least one customizable ~~agents~~ agent to create, populate, and maintain contextual information extracted from the at least one information resource to thereby provide shared knowledge throughout an enterprise.

23. (Currently amended) The dynamic reference repository system of claim 22,

wherein the at least one customizable agent ~~comprises utilities to conduct SME reviews, assessments or interviews~~ configured to perform an automated updating of a next customizable agent search dynamically for a user responsive to a user refusing undesired information returned during a current customizable agent search; and

wherein the interface to the at least one database is configured to receive pertinent inputs contained within communications addressed to the dynamic reference repository, and to retrieve the received pertinent inputs to the dynamic reference repository for storage therein.

24. (Canceled).

25. (Currently amended) The dynamic reference repository system of claim 23,

wherein the communications addressed to the dynamic reference repository are e-mails containing subject matter expert assessments addressed to the dynamic reference repository; and

wherein the at least one customizable agent includes a utility to generate a subject matter expert request for information required to produce the determined pertinent inputs to thereby obtain the required pertinent inputs required to satisfy the desired capability.

26. (Currently amended) The dynamic reference repository system of claim 2423, wherein the at least one customizable agent comprises utilities to:

recognize a global change in replacement of a name of a data item in the at least one information resource to retrieve pertinent articles, knowledge, or pieces of information containing the data item referred to by a different name in the at least one information resource; and

redefine the name of the data item responsive to the global replacement of the name of the data item in the at least one information resource to retrieve pertinent articles, knowledge, or pieces of information containing the data item previously referred to by a different name in the at least one information resource.

27. (Currently amended) The dynamic reference repository system of claim 22,

wherein the at least one customizable agent is neutral to document format;

wherein the pertinent inputs further comprise documents required to satisfy the desired capability from plurality of sources and in a plurality of document formats;

wherein the at least one customizable agent is configured to identify the documents required to satisfy the desired capability;

wherein the plurality of document formats comprises electronic forms that further comprise MS Office, web document, and e-mail document compatible forms; and

wherein the at least one customizable agent is configured to integrate the documents having the plurality of document formats into a common standard format used within an enterprise architecture system.

28. (Canceled).

29. (Currently amended) The dynamic reference repository system of claim 17, wherein the at least one information source includes a plurality of different information sources, and wherein the processing module is further operable to: ~~discover the pertinent inputs by executing a periodic prioritized search of reference material(s) within the at least one information resource.~~

contextually relate a term separately with each associated information source to allow the term to be differentiated and properly used to thereby maintain integrity of each assigned meaning of the term; and

interpret the meaning of the term differently for at least two different information sources to differentiate each meaning of the term relative to the respective information source to thereby prevent returning non-pertinent inputs to a search query including the term.

30. (Currently amended) The dynamic reference repository system of claim 17, ~~wherein the processing module is further operable to time stamp the pertinent inputs with current time prior to dissemination of notice to users of the at least one database.~~ wherein the at least one information source includes a plurality of information sources, the system further comprising at least one customizable software agent configured to:

recognize a global replacement of a name of a data item in one of the plurality of information resources from a first name during an earlier first time period to a second name during a later second time period; and

retrieving a set of same articles, knowledge, or pieces of information responsive to a plurality of searches by the at least one customizable software agent, each based on a separate one of a corresponding plurality of different keyword names referring to a same data item, the data item being referred to by the first name identifying the data item during the earlier first time period and a second name identifying the data item during the later second time period.

31. (Currently amended) A method for populating a dynamic reference repository for an enterprise, comprising:

performing by a processing module, an automated identification of enterprise information requirements and enterprise technology requirements based on a desired enterprise capability to thereby identify and populate the dynamic reference repository with pertinent inputs required to support the desired enterprise capability;

discovering pertinent inputs to the dynamic reference repository, the pertinent inputs comprising data from a plurality of information resources containing knowledge accessible to update or add to the collective knowledge stored within the dynamic reference repository;

retrieving the pertinent inputs to the dynamic reference repository, wherein an automated customizable software ~~agent(s) search~~ agent searches for, discovers~~discover~~, and retrieves ~~retrieve~~ the pertinent inputs to the dynamic reference repository from Internet or intranet accessible resources;

managing the pertinent inputs to the dynamic reference repository to update or add to the collective knowledge stored in the dynamic reference repository;

cataloging the pertinent inputs to the dynamic reference repository; and

distributing the pertinent inputs to populate the dynamic reference repository;

at least the discovering, retrieving, managing, cataloging, and distributing performed by a customizable software agent configured to communicate with the plurality of information resources and the stored knowledge in the dynamic reference repository, the customizable software agent stored in a memory device accessible to the processing module.

32. (Currently amended) The method of claim 31, wherein the customizable software agent further searches for, discovers, and retrieves the pertinent inputs from subject matter experts (SMEs), ~~and~~ wherein the customizable software agent further comprise utilities to conduct SME reviews, assessments or interviews, and wherein the customizable software agent comprises utilities at least one utility configured to initiate contact with a SME with an online communication and to conduct a subject matter expert (SME) review or assessment of a technology or capability, the online communication including a link to an interactive enterprise

website associated with the dynamic reference repository to conduct the SME review or assessment.

33. (Currently amended) The method of claim 31, wherein pertinent inputs are contained in, and retrieved by the customizable software agent from electronic communications addressed to the dynamic reference repository, and wherein the method further comprises:

tagging a term and contextually relating the a term separately with its each associated different information source to allow the term to be differentiated and properly used to thereby maintain integrity of an each assigned meaning of the term; and

interpreting the meaning of the term differently for at least two different information sources to differentiate each meaning of the term relative to the respective information source to thereby prevent returning non-pertinent inputs to a search query including the term.

34. (Currently amended) An enterprise architecture including a dynamic reference repository system having a dynamic reference repository, that comprises:

at least one database;

at least one information resource operably coupled to the dynamic reference repository; and

a processing module operably coupled to the at least one database and operable to execute a set of instructions to:

identify enterprise information requirements and enterprise technology requirements based on a desired enterprise capability to thereby identify and populate the dynamic reference repository with pertinent inputs required to support the desired enterprise capability,

identify the pertinent inputs to the dynamic reference repository within the at least one information resource, the pertinent inputs comprising data from at least one information resource containing knowledge accessible to update or add to collective knowledge stored within the dynamic reference repository,

retrieve the pertinent inputs to the dynamic reference repository from the at least one information resource to update or add to the collective knowledge stored in the dynamic reference repository,

manage the pertinent inputs to the dynamic reference repository, and

distribute the pertinent inputs to update the dynamic reference repository.

35. (Withdrawn) A method to populate a dynamic reference repository to support a project, comprising:

identifying capabilities to be associated with the project;

identifying requirements based on the capabilities associated with the project;

identifying technologies based on the capabilities associated with the project;

refining the requirements, technologies and capabilities based on subject matter expert input;

searching for and retrieving pertinent inputs to the dynamic reference repository based on the requirements, technologies, subject matter expert input, and capabilities; and

distributing the pertinent inputs to populate the dynamic reference repository.

36. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1,

wherein the step of discovering pertinent inputs includes identifying updates made to existing sources of information for the dynamic reference repository;

wherein the step of distributing the pertinent inputs includes updating the database within the dynamic reference repository; and

wherein the method further comprises the step of disseminating a plurality of user tailored notices of the identified updates to a corresponding plurality of users of the dynamic reference repository, each user tailored notice individually tailored for each separate one of the plurality of users responsive to a list of keywords ~~or key subjects of interest to the user,~~ provided by the respective user and different from that of each other of the plurality of users to thereby provide selective individual user-based notification.

37. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

dynamically updating a search for a user searching the dynamic reference repository responsive to search habits of the user to optimize search results for the user; and

updating a next search responsive to user input rejecting gathered information gathered during a first search to optimize search results for the user.

38. (Currently amended) The dynamic reference repository system of claim 17, wherein the processing module is further operable to:

tag a term and contextually relate the term with its associated information source to allow the term to be differentiated and properly used to thereby maintain integrity of an assigned meaning of the term; ~~and~~

differentiate a first meaning behind the term with respect to its associated information source and a second meaning behind the term with respect to another information source; and

redefine contextually a definition of the term ~~one or more terms and definitions~~ underlying the at least one database responsive to one or more identified pertinent inputs identifying a change in a usage of the term.

39. (Currently amended) The dynamic reference repository system of claim 17,

wherein identifying pertinent inputs includes identifying updates made to existing sources of information for the dynamic reference repository;

wherein distributing the pertinent inputs includes updating the at least one database within the dynamic reference repository; and

wherein the processing module is further operable to disseminate a plurality of user tailored notices of the identified updates to a corresponding plurality of users of the dynamic reference repository, each user tailored notice individually tailored for each separate one of the plurality of users responsive to a list of keywords ~~or key subjects of interest to the user,~~ provided by the respective user and different from that of each other of the plurality of users to thereby provide selective individual user-based notification.

40. (Previously presented) The dynamic reference repository system of claim 17, wherein the processing module is further operable to:

dynamically update a search for a user searching the dynamic reference repository responsive to search habits of the user to optimize search results for the user; and

update a next search responsive to user input rejecting gathered information gathered during a first search to optimize search results for the user.

41. (Canceled).

42. (Currently amended) The enterprise architecture as defined in claim 34, wherein the processing module is further operable to recognize a global ~~change in~~replacement of a name of a data item in the at least one information resource to retrieve pertinent articles, knowledge, or pieces of information containing the data item referred to by a different name in the at least one information resource.

43. (New) The enterprise architecture as defined in claim 34, wherein the processing module is further operable to contextually map the pertinent inputs required to support the desired enterprise capability from the plurality of information resources to the dynamic reference repository.